



1744

Docket No.: 22750/402

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Sandra PSIK et al.
Serial No. : 09/306,854
Filed : September 17, 2001
For : FLOOR-MOPPING DEVICE
Group Art Unit : 1744
Examiner : Randall E. CHIN
Confirmation No. : 4062

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

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Date: March 5, 2003

Reg. No. 31,792

Signature:

Richard M. Rosati

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

SIR:

In response to the restriction/election of species requirement dated February 12, 2003, applicants elect, with traverse, the species identified as species I of the claimed invention (Figure 1) for further prosecution in this application. Claims 1 to 11 and 14-17 are readable on the elected species. Applicants respectfully request that, upon the allowance of a generic claim, claims directed to other species including all the limitations of the generic claim be considered, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.141. Currently, claims 1-11 and 14-17 are generic to the elected species and the other identified species.

It is respectfully submitted that the restriction/election requirement as to claims 1-17 should be withdrawn for the following reasons. The Examiner has characterized the above-referenced


application as including claims directed to more than one patentably distinct species, and requires an election between:

- Species I, identified as Figure 1; and
- Species II, identified as Figure 2.

According to the present invention, a floor-mopping device having a handle which is connected to a supporting body having at least one flexible mopping element suspended from it in pendulum fashion is provided. Common to all embodiments of the invention is the feature of the supporting body being connected to the handle such that the supporting body is rotatable about the longitudinal axis of the handle. Hence, it is believed that a search and examination of claims 1 to 17 of the application can be made without undue burden on the Examiner. The various species of claims identified by the Examiner are not asserted to belong to differing classes or subclasses. Thus, the searches performed for all of the currently pending claims would overlap. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 5, 2003



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